Title: Requests the Central Government to make a statement on the actions and initiatives taken to contact the world powers on the continued attack by the United States of America on Iraq.

*m01

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL (JALANDHAR): Sir, I rise to express my sad and also heart-rending views regarding the continued attack by the United States of America on Iraq. The hon. Prime Minister had made a statement here expressing the Government of India's concern about the situation. But unfortunately the reprehensible actions continue and now we see that the missile attack has been repeated and the newspapers say, the world over, that there is a possibility of an aerial attack as well.

I think, I am voicing the feelings of this House and also perhaps the entire nation, when I join my friends in saying that here is a power which does not care to what the United Nations is saying. Sanctions against Iraq were imposed under the Resolution of the Security Council. Neither the United States nor Britain has any autonomous or independent authority to impose anything on Iraq, the way they have been trying to do.

As we were told yesterday, the unfortunate thing is that although the Security Council is sitting and the world opinion is being expressed, it is not listened to and the attacks continue. This New World Order that is nowbeing spelt out like this causes concern to all of us which means basically that any nation which has the missiles and also the nuclear power can go out of the discipline of the United Nations also and can impose its will by force and by violence on any Third World nation.

As a country of the Third World and as an important Member of the NAM and as a nation which has always served the United Nations cause with a great deal of responsibility, I think this House will be well within its rights and also called upon to express its strong opinion on this.

I also notice and I think my hon. colleagues also would have noticed that apart from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, China, Russia, the European Union members like France have also expressed their difficulty and apprehension on this. Media universally, we notice, everywhere in the world, has come out to condemn this act.

I do feel that our sympathy goes to all those citizens of Iraq who are suffering. Some news has come. Some children are suffering, houses have been demolished, peaceful citizens have been killed and, therefore, I feel that this united voice must go from this country that we think that the actions of the United States of America are condemnable. We also feel that we should also send a word of sympathy to the citizens and people of Iraq who are suffering, through no fault of theirs.

Unfortunately after the Prime Minister's statement -- this one and the previous one about the bilateral talks between America and India -- our rules did not permit for asking for further questions or clarifications. And since the Minister was just now talking about the next week's business, I think it is important for us to earmark some time, before the House adjourns, to discuss the foreign policy.

I am not criticising. If it has been provided for, I will be very grateful. I accept it. I am thankful to the hon. Minister and I think particularly that when the debate comes the hon. Prime Minister or the hon. Minister of External Affairs should come to the House and must, in a detailed fashion, tell us what actions and initiatives the Government of India has taken to contact the world powers on this new reprehensible act of the United States of America.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. Please understand it. Yesterday also the hon. Prime Minister had made a statement. On the 22nd or the 23rd we are going to discuss the foreign policy also.

... (Interruptions)

*m02

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (MADURAI): The Prime Minister has only deplored the United States' action. He should condemn it. (Interruptions)

*m03

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): He should condemn it. (Interruptions)

डा. शफीकुर्रहमान बर्क (मुरादाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस तरह से अमरीका की दादागिरी नहीं चलनी चाहिए।

... (Interruptions)
MR. SPEAKER: There is no difference of opinion. Yesterday also, the entire House has agreed. There is no problem.
... (Interruptions)
MR. SPEAKER: You can associate with it.
... (Interruptions)
MR. SPEAKER: The entire House is associating with it.

*m04

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, my Party is supporting the views expressed by hon. Shri I.K. Gujral. We are associating with him.
... (Interruptions)
MR. SPEAKER: Yes, all of you are associating with Shri Gujral's statement.

*m05

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER (TENALI): While associating myself with what has been said by the hon. former Prime Minister, I would just like to add a few words and then speak on the other aspect.
Sir, our foreign policy, notwithstanding the different shades of political parties that we are, had been the replica of the national sentiment. All the parties, irrespective of the beliefs that they have, the principles that they pursue, had been unanimous on the issue of the foreign policy that we had been pursuing and which has been framed based on the traditions and conventions that we have inherited over the centuries.
Sir, it is a sorry state of affairs that the United States in the recent times has become the police man of the world. The unilateral attack has not only shocked the conscience of the universe but also even the Secretary-General of the Security Council has gone on record to say that it is highly disturbing and a matter of great concern.
Sir, a non-aligned country has been subjected to attack by the United States and Great Britain on a ground that cannot be called as a ground of any relevance. It is unfortunate that the greatest of the powers today is trying to resolve the problem through the process of violence thereby trying to divert the attention of the world from their own problems, particularly, the problems that confront the President of the United States of America, and in that process trying to take vengeance on a Non-aligned country.
As the hon. Prime Minister has stated yesterday, all our support goes for that nation and we stand for peace. I am sure the United States and the Great Britain see the writing on the wall, and do not escalate it into an international strife. I am sure that the nation will stand by this approach . All our sympathies go for the people of Iraq who are suffering from untold miseries because of this unwarranted attack.

*m06

श्री मदन लाल खुराना : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री श्री गुजराल जी ने जो मुद्दा उठाया और आपने भी उसका उल्लेख किया। कल माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने बगदाद पर हमले के बारे में देश की भावना को प्रकट करते हुए यू.एस.ए. के एक्शन की निंदा की। प्राइम मिनिस्टर की स्टेटमैंट में जो भाव व्यक्त किये गये थे, पूरे सदन ने उसकी सराहना की थी। आज प्रातः मैंने प्रधान मंत्री जी से फॉरन अफेयर्स के बारे में बातचीत की थी। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो स्टेटमैंट दिया, उस पर इस सदन के अंदर २२ तारीख को चर्चा होगी।

श्री जी.एम. बनातवाला : यह चर्चा अभी करनी चाहिए। २२ तारीख को चर्चा क्यों कर रहे हैं? आप उसे रमजान के महीने के अंदर क्यों ले जा रहे हैं?

श्री मदन लाल खुरानाः वैसे भारत सरकार की निगाह में है।

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Sir, it is the month of Ramadan and fasting. Before Ramadan starts, let us discuss this issue.

श्री मदन लाल खुरानाः भारत सरकार स्थिति पर निगाह रखे हुए है।

श्री जी.एम. बनातवाला : आप उसे अभी शुरू करा दीजिए।

MR. SPEAKER: It was decided in the Business Advisory Committee. Shri Banatwalla, please take your seat.
... (Interruptions)
SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Sir, the month of Ramadan and fasting is starting.

श्री मदन लाल खुरानाः माननीय सदस्य की भावना मैं समझता हूं लेकिन २१ तारीख को रशिया के प्रधान मंत्री आ रहे हैं और प्रधान मंत्री जी उनके साथ बिजी हैं। इसलिए २२ तारीख को तय किया है। २२ तारीख को वे यहां पर रहेंगे और उसका जवाब देंगे।

श्री जी.एम. बनातवाला (पोन्नानी) : यह आज से ही शुरू हो जाना चाहिए। ... (व्यवधान)

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA): Sir, we have given notices, and our names stand at first and second places in the list.
MR. SPEAKER: I am calling everybody.